

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	19360	Agenda Number	38.
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Meeting Date:	11/8/2012	Department:	Public Works
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Subject

Approve a resolution authorizing the submission of applications for grants under the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Transportation Enhancement Program for a Bicycle Traffic Signal and Detection grant and a Safe Routes to School Sidewalk grant for a total amount not to exceed \$550,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

The total grant amount of \$550,000 will be provided by TxDOT. The Bicycle Signal and Detection Grant will be for approximately \$250,000 with required \$50,000 local match from the Transportation Department Capital Budget. The Safe Routes to School portion of the grant is for \$300,000 with a local match of \$60,000 funded through the Public Works Department Capital Budget.

Fiscal Note

There is no fiscal impact associated with submitting the grant application; no fiscal note is required.

Purchasing Language:

Prior Council Action: March 5, 2009: Council approved Sidewalk Master Plan; June 11, 2009: Council approved the Bicycle Master Plan; June 14, 2009: Council approves Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan

For More Information: Annick Beaudet, 974-7142, Susan Garnett, 974-7064

Boards and Commission Action:

MBE / WBE:

Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

The Bicycle Signals and Detection Grant will support the innovative use of bicycle signals at intersections which experience high volumes of bicycle traffic. This grant will also support collaboration with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to test bicycle signals and add to the national knowledge base. Austin will be one of the first cities in the country to officially test bicycle signals, building on our reputation as nationally renowned bicycle-friendly city. This grant is for \$250,000 with the \$50,000 local match funded by the Traffic Signal Division of the Transportation Department to improve bicycle detection at twenty high-volume bicycle intersections across the city.

The Sidewalk Master Plan identifies over \$800 million in sidewalk gaps within the City of Austin. Every year the Sidewalk Program seeks to fill those gaps with bond, operating, developer, grant, and foundation funds. This grant will allow closure of two gaps in the sidewalk network and facilitate walking and biking to Guellet and Barton Hills Elementary Schools. This improvement will help to create a healthier, more connected environment, consistent with the goals of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan. This project is managed by the Public Works Department.